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DATE: February 29, 2016

**NEWS RELEASE** 

## **Pedestrian Struck While Crossing Street**

Date/Time: 02-25-16 @ 6:53pm Address: 3500 Montana @ Copia

Pedestrian: Melinda SANTA ANNA, 57 years old of El Paso Texas

Vehicle: 2013 Ford Fusion, grey in color

Driver: Mario HUITRON, 25 years old of El Paso Texas Passenger: Jennifer SAMANIEGO, 22 years old of El Paso Texas

Passenger: Female, 16 years old of El Paso Texas

EL PASO, TX: A pedestrian was struck and subsequently died after attempting to cross a roadway and walking into the path of a car. The crash occurred on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at around 6:53pm in the 3500 block of Montana. Central Patrol responded to the scene and began an investigation. Preliminary facts obtained by officers indicate that 57 year old Melinda SANTA ANNA was attempting to cross Montana against a red traffic light when she was struck by a 2013 Ford Fusion that was being driven by 25 year old Mario HUITRON who had a green traffic light. During the investigation the officers were advised that the injuries sustained by SANTA ANNA were not believed to be life threatening therefore no request was made to the Special Traffic Investigations Unit for their assistance. On Friday, February 26, 2016 Special Traffic Investigators were advised that in fact SANTA ANNA had died at the hospital (University Medical Center) while being treated for injuries sustained in the crash. Investigators believe that crossing against a red light on the part of SANTA ANNA is a contributing factor in this crash. This case remains an ongoing investigation.

This is the 11<sup>th</sup> traffic related death for 2016 compared to 8 at this time in 2015.

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**Media Contact:** Mike Baranyay Police Public Information Officer (915) 212-4312